

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION DIVISION (LMID)
Advisory Group Meeting
December 6, 2000
LMID Conference Room 2-3
Sacramento, CA

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Nelson Anthoine, Private Industry Council North Central Counties Consortium
John Corcoran, California Occupational Information Coordinating Committee
Barbara Ellison, California Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency
Paul Gussman, Education
Warren Jensen, California State University, Chico, Center for Economic Development
Marilyn Jorgensen, Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges
Sandy Kirschenmann, California Community Colleges, ED>NET
Greg Marutani, Private Industry Council of San Francisco
Rick Moore, California State University, Northridge
Dennis Reid, U.S. DOL – Bureau of Labor Statistics
Eileen Roling, EDD Job Service Division
Gil Velazquez, California Post Secondary Education Commission
Steve Weiner, Southern California Association of Governments
Stacy Wilson, California Postsecondary Education Commission
LMID Staff

Recorder: Karen Villacres

Welcome:

Richard Holden welcomed the members, including our new members, and noted that we are expanding the Advisory Group membership to include entities referenced in the California Workforce and Economic Information System Act. We are glad for all of their input, and look forward to the comments of our new members.

Review of Minutes: No change

LMID Research Agenda:

Phil Hardiman expanded on LMID's Research plan, developed by LMID's senior management team. LMID plans to promote, support, and conduct applied labor market research, to satisfy customer needs.

In support of the Workforce Investment Boards, as well as other LMID customers, the general need for interpreted data will draw us into jointly defining research needs and questions, and producing and sharing data to fulfill those research needs effectively. We will also be called upon to use our knowledge of

and access to EDD data resources to consult with our customers in defining their research needs. With other EDD programs such as UI, DI and JS, we expect to continue to supply data to meet their operational needs, but also to work with those program staff selectively in order to help in making their programs more responsive to legislative and societal requirements.

To improve our ability to achieve this objective, we will foster the professional development of LMID staff, particularly enabling them to participate in and conduct complex research projects. We will experiment with more effective ways to market our data resources, staff capacities, and research findings.

For purposes of this plan, research is defined as follows:

Research involves objective analysis using standard research methods to address important or emerging economic, public policy or program questions. For the most part, research by LMID staff is “applied,” as opposed to “theoretical.”

It is appropriate to use applied research when generating a response to questions or hypotheses about conditions in California labor markets, and when the project or study has implications for the future. A research project or study can be short-term or long-term in nature, but is typically long-term due to the need to define methodologies; acquire data and other resources; analyze and arrange for peer review; and edit, clear, and publish findings.

Phil described a series of research studies LMID has initiated or completed:

- E-Commerce industry.
- Longitudinal employee-household dynamics database
- Agricultural data
- Job turnover
- New hire rates by gender and age
- Nonprofit Employment Data
- CalJOBS reports on job listings and skills of applicants
- Public Policy Institute of California just started developing research data on teacher mobility and disability insurance.
- Self-employment
- Health-care workers

Phil also discussed the criteria for customers to access Confidential Data: currently requires connection to government, and statutory authority. In the future, LMID will be able to approve access to confidential data for researchers who engage in studies of public policy interest, in which LMID participates as the sponsor.

Trends in Minimum Wage, Trends in Self Employment and the State of the State's Labor markets

Tammy Garcia updated the Advisory Group on the status of these reports. *The Trends in Minimum Wage* report is in the clearance process, should be available soon. *The State of the State's Labor Markets* is still in development, but should be ready early in 2001.

The *Trends in Self Employment* report is completed, and available in print and on the CALMIS website at www.calmis.ca.gov/specialreports/self-employmentreport.pdf. Tammy provided copies of the report to attendees. The report analyzes Current Population Survey (CPS) data. The CPS is a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Census for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The services industry has the largest number of self-employed. Men make up the larger percent of self-employed. This analysis finds that the number of self-employed in 1999 is down from the number in 1998, and from its high in the early 1990's, when California was in the midst of the recession. The analysis notes that self-employment has dropped as the economy has improved, and that self-employment increased during periods of high unemployment. From 1993-1999 self-employment fell 122,000 (8%) while total employment rose 13%.

Tammy added - Janet Austin is the author of the report. Tammy will refer anyone with technical questions to Janet.

Update on the UC San Diego Industry Cluster project—We believe that the model produced for us by Dr. Serge Rey is effective, as did our technical reviewers. We are working on a contract with Dr. Rey to test the model in specified regions-- San Diego, Bay area, Southern California, and Central California—as recommended by the technical review committee.

Update on the Actions of the Workforce Information Council and the California Workforce Investment Board:

Richard shared a copy of a presentation he gave to the Economic Analysis, Planning and Systems Development Committee of the state Workforce Investment Board. The presentation identified high growth industries in California, high growth occupations within these industries, the education and training levels and skills required for these occupations. This kind of analysis can help the State Board and our other customers to understand labor market trends, and their implications for job training and placement.

The information Richard provided to the committee identified industry areas which represent a large portion of expected growth between now and 2008—Services, Health, Education, and a catchall “other”. For each of these industries, the growing occupations vary, but basic skills are necessary for all. Education and training levels for growth occupations in these industries include a number of entry level jobs requiring only short term on the job training (e.g. laborers, assemblers, entry level health workers, etc.), and another cluster of jobs

requiring a bachelor's degree (e.g. computer engineers, systems analysts, teachers and registered nurses). Richard's presentation also detailed some of the skills the various occupations required. Richard concluded that California workforce information can assist in setting strategies for workforce investment, and that we welcomed the Advisory Group's guidance in developing a workforce and economic information system to meet local and state needs.

Improvement to CALMIS website:

Nancy Gemignani, LMID's webmaster told the Advisory Group that we are planning to add annual employment data from the ES 202 files to the LMID web site at <http://www.calmis.ca.gov/>. She asked a series of questions to get input about the format the ES 202 data should be in once it is placed on the web.

1. Will Excel files be the most usable? Or some other format such as comma-delimited text files or a downloadable Access database?

The group agreed that Excel would be the best format (John, Barbara, Greg, Warren voiced this). John Corcoran commented that Excel is easier to import into FoxPro and Filemaker pro.

Nancy asked if an Excel file should be created for each county?

The group answered Yes

2. Nancy noted that the files will be smaller if we do not display any cells that are suppressed. If we do show them, some files for smaller counties will be large but have very little data in them.

Warren Jensen would like to see zero value. They put everything into a multiple worksheet and if the zero values are not indicated they have to add them by hand.

Nancy – the problem is that the file would be very large; could use a flag to show the suppressed counties. Flag was ok.

Rick Moore asked do you roll up the numbers where they are suppressed?

Nancy – yes they are rolled up.

3. The data by county will include detailed 2-, 3-, and 4-digit SIC code for the private sector and a summary of federal, state, and local government. The data for the State will be detailed 2-, 3-, and 4-digit SIC code for both the private sector and a breakout of Educational Services in government. Is this sufficient? Yes
4. We will provide annual average employment (a monthly figure), the number of establishments and total payroll.
5. Should we convert the 1997 and 1998 data as well as the 1999 data?
The group wants all the data available.

6. How should the data files be made available by county to download:

- Individual county files
- Major regional files and then balance of state.
- Group counties alphabetically, such as A-L, Los Angeles, M-Y.

Preference was individual county files.

7. Can most of the target customers for these files handle files in a zipped format? Should we make the files self-extracting? Yes.

Other general comments on the web site or LMI Program:

Add SIC titles as well as numbers to the files.

Barbara Ellison asked when will ES 202 be converted to NAICS?

Answer - The 2000-2001 data will be converted in 2002.

Marilyn Jorgensen noted that she met with LMID staff (John Klug) re community college data on the web. She is having a problem finding the data needed, and needs help using the search function on the web site.

Bonnie – Very recent change—you can now find a link to the search function at the bottom of each web page.

Nancy asked if everyone is on the email list for the newsletter, if not, on the second page of the web site there is a link to sign up. The newsletter is used to announce when new data is available, and other program changes.

Nelson Anthoine commented that he likes the *County Snapshots*, but asked that we test the on-line PDF version to insure that the graphics print well in black and white.

Nancy asked about the main menu-- should she add descriptors to the first page to make the main menu more understandable and usable? General comments were that the first page is ok, understandable as is.

Update on the MSA Redesignation:

Ken Budman updated on the OMB proposal to change the current Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) data collection areas to a new Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA). After the last LMI Advisory meeting, members and others sent several letters of concern to OMB. They are looking at all the comments received. Many were from California. Other concerns come from Detroit, Houston, Chicago, Washington D.C., and Dallas.

Issues:

- Population and commuting problem, commuting is the criteria looked at to combine area like Orange and LA
- 15% commuting standard

- Another proposed change is Douglas county Nevada will be added to Sacramento PMSA.

The decision will be in the next Federal Register at the end of the month or in January.

Dennis Reid said that 1700 letters of concerns were received. The committee is standing firm when the final decision in the Federal Register comes out. In the past, local input was factored into decisions regarding MSA designations. The standardization of this new method will limit local input in the future.

Greg Marutani asked if they roll SF into the larger CBSA, will the sample size be such that they cannot provide data on SF county? Can local data be broken out?

Ken- BLS says their intention is to continue surveying the areas the way it is now, but one dependency is budget. Right now Solano, Napa, Contra Costa, and San Francisco are separated out. If budget were restricted in the future, sample size from each area could be restricted, and the usability of local data could be limited.

Marilyn Jorgensen said she would like to know if the outcomes will be announced in the news letter?

Ken – Yes when the decision is made.

Eileen Rohlifing asked, are the criteria something that will be in effect for several years?

Ken – until the next census

Dennis- the criteria will probably not change at the next census, once the decision is made.

Greg Marutani asked, since they ran the data based on the old 1990 census, why are they not waiting to compare to the 2000 data? With the changes in mass transit, this should have a significant effect on commute data.

Dennis- the standards were supposed to be developed before the 2000 census started. They wanted to minimize the politicizing of the decision.

Ken- the standards were developed, and applied to the only data they had to test the standards.

Tim Taormina asked if the MSAs will change when the 2000 data comes out?

Dennis- the changes could result in different MSA's.

(Postscript—the OMB has since ruled on this matter. Findings have been e-mailed to Advisory Group. Bottom line is that data will continue to be collected separately for LA and Orange counties.)

Update on new membership for the LMI Advisory Group:

At the last meeting, the group discussed adding members to broaden input. As a result of this discussion, LMID invited additional people and/or organizations. New members at this meeting include Sandy Kirschenmann, Paul Gussman, Dennis Reid, and Warren Jensen. Other potential new members include representatives of EDD's Information Technology Branch, California Workforce Association, Dept Education, California Workforce Investment Board, and a new regional representative from ETA.

Stacy Wilson & John Corcoran would like an invitation sent to the Board of Private Post Secondary Education. Bonnie acknowledged that John had made this suggestion at the last meeting, and will insure that they are invited.

Greg Marutani would like to give LMI Newsletter customers the minutes from the meeting or topics for the next meeting.

Wrap Up:

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Parking	Invite BPPVE
Blueberry coffee cake	
New membership	
Staying on time, Agenda	
LMID Research Agenda	
Input for Web site/ES202	

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 22, 2001; 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Agenda:

- On-line Job Search tools—*CaJOBS* and others
- Analysis of *CaJOBS* outcomes (implications for supply/demand)
- *Minimum Wage* and *State of the State's Labor Markets* reports
- *Self Sufficiency guidelines*—"living wage"
- *Update on MSA redesignation*